

*4* 19. An adapter pod as defined in claim 18 wherein said device connector has a first number of signal lines and wherein said common connector has a second number of signal lines different than said first number.

*5* 20. An adapter pod as defined in claim 18 additionally comprising:

a device interface circuit; and

a power supply circuit,

wherein said controller is coupled to control said power supply circuit to selectively supply power to said device interface circuit.

*B' (cont.)*  
~~21. An adapter pod for use in a medical perfusion system having a data communications network with a plurality of connection points each having a substantially identical network connector, said adapter pod comprising:~~

a housing;

a common connector associated with said housing, said common connector adapted to be connected to one of said network connectors and having a connector configuration;

a device connector associated with said housing, said device connector being adapted to be connected to a perfusion device and having a connector configuration different than said connector configuration of said common connector;

a power supply circuit; and

~~a controller disposed within said housing, said controller being adapted to generate messages in the form of digital data packets and said controller being coupled to said power supply circuit.~~

*7* 22. An adapter pod as defined in claim 21 wherein said device connector has a first number of signal lines and wherein said common connector has a second number of signal lines different than said first number.